

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: FIRST ATTEMPT TO ORGANIZE BAVARIAN BRANCH OF
"GREEN ACTION FOR THE FUTURE" FIZZLES

REF: MUNICH 3273

1. INTRO AND SUMMARY. BUNDESTAG DEPUTY HERBERT GRUHL,
WHO QUIT THE CDU EARLIER THIS MONTH TO ORGANIZE HIS OWN
PARTY, "GREEN ACTION FOR THE FUTURE" (GRUENE AKTION
ZUKUNFT), TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO ORGANIZE A BAVARIAN
LAND DISTRICT (LANDESVERBAND) IN A MEETING AT MUNICH'S
HOFBRAEUHAUS JULY 15. GRUHL PLANS TO MAKE A SECOND
ATTEMPT JULY 22. END SUMMARY.

2. A MAJORITY OF THOSE ATTENDING GRUHL'S JULY 15
MEETING WERE MEMBERS OF A MINISCULE RADICAL NATIONALIST
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POLITICAL PARTY WHOSE NAME CAN BE TRANSLATED ROUGHLY
"THE COMMITTEE OF INDEPENDENT GERMANS" (ARBEITSGEMEIN-
SCHAFT UNABHAENGIGER DEUTSCHER). THE AUD MEMBERS
APPARENTLY INSISTED THAT ANY COLLABORATION WITH GRUHL'S
GAZ WOULD HAVE TO BE ON THE BASIS OF JOINT CANDIDATE
LISTS WHICH IDENTIFY THE AUD AS THE SENIOR PARTNER.
POINTING TO THE FACT THAT THE AUD HAS CONDUCTED A NUMBER

OF UNSUCCESSFUL ELECTION CAMPAIGNS SINCE THE MID FIFTIES, GRUHL INSISTED THAT THE "GREENS" SHOULD CONTEST THE OCTOBER 15 BAVARIAN LANDTAG ELECTION AS A COMPLETELY NEW POLITICAL ENTITY.

3. MEMBERS OF VARIOUS CITIZENS' INITIATIVES APPARENTLY CONSTITUTED THE BALANCE OF THOSE ATTENDING THE MUNICH MEETING. GRUHL SEEMS TO HAVE FAILED ON TWO COUNTS TO CONVINCE THEM TO JOIN HIS PARTY. THE FIRST WAS HIS ALLEGED FAILURE TO CONSULT WITH CITIZENS INITIATIVE GROUPS AT THE GRASSROOTS BEFORE LAUNCHING HIS NATIONAL PARTY, THE GAZ. SECONDLY, HE IS PERCEIVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE CITIZENS' INITIATIVES AS DESIRING TO MANIPULATE THEM TO OBTAIN HIS OWN PERSONAL AMBITIONS RATHER THAN TO CHAMPION THE SPECIFIC LOCAL ECOLOGY ISSUES DEAR TO THEIR HEARTS. AN EXAMPLE OF SUCH A LOCAL ISSUE HERE IS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MAJOR WATER PIPELINE THROUGH A MEADOW SOUTH OF MUNICH.

4. CONGEN HAS THE IMPRESSION THAT SOME OF THE LESS EXOTIC "RAINBOW" ELEMENTS WHICH MET AT NUERNBERG JULY 8 (PARA 3, REFTEL) ALSO ATTENDED GRUHL'S HOFBRAEUHAUS GATHERING. IN CONTRAST TO THE "RAINBOWS," HOWEVER, THE SUPPORTERS OF THE "GREEN LIST" VOTERS ORGANIZATION WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN FREISING JULY 8 (PARA 2 REFTEL) HELD THEIR OWN MEETING IN ERMERSHAUSEN, A SMALL TOWN IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LOWER FRANCONIA, JULY 15. THIS MEETING TOOK THE FORM OF A BEER AND WURST FESTIVAL UNDER THE SLOGAN "FREEDOM INSTEAD OF BUREAUCRACY."

5. COMMENT. CONGEN CONSIDERS IT UNLIKELY THAT GRUHL WILL BE ABLE TO WORK OUT A SATISFACTORY MODE OF COOPERATION WITH THE AUD. THE MODERATE AND LEFT-OF-CENTER ELEMENTS WHICH FIND THEMSELVES ATTRACTED TO GRUHL SEEM UNLIKELY TO BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE RADICAL NATIONALISTS OF THE AUD.

6. THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM FACED BY THE BAVARIAN "GREENS" IS THAT THE BUND NATURSCHUTZ, THE MOST INFLUENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATION HERE, HAS DECIDED TO REMAIN POLITICALLY NEUTRAL. THE BUND NATURSCHUTZ PREFERS TO PURSUE ITS GOALS THROUGH THE EXISTING PARTY STRUCTURE AND HAS TO DATE BEEN RATHER SUCCESSFUL IN DOING SO. GILMORE

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